



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

Town Council

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Mayor Rita M. Schmidt, Councilors Genevieve Cerf, Joe de la Cruz, Bruce S. Flax, Bob Frink, Rich Moravsik, Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Heather Bond Somers and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Schmidt.

Members Present: Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Cerf, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Flax, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Somers

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Sidney VanZandt.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

None.

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Ron Yuhas, 91 South Road, encouraged the Council to get the Police Departments to work together in accordance with the findings of the police study; to review the snow removal policy in downtown Mystic; and to look at the Town's retirement fund. He stated that the Town needs to be thinking long-term.

Joan Smith, 58 Mohegan Road, urged the Council to reconsider its vote not to support Groton Open Space Association's (GOSA's) grant application. She noted that two appraisers have stated that there is limited development potential. The Conservation Commission voted in favor of GOSA's application and the Planning Commission supports protection of the pitch pine forest, the quarry, and the large wetland area. Ms. Smith remarked that Groton has a quiet beauty that won't last forever if it isn't protected.

Sidney VanZandt, 3 Front Street, asked the Council to reconsider its vote not to support the GOSA grant application. She stated that Groton is fortunate to have an abundant clean water supply and the reservoir's watershed needs to be protected. Ms. VanZandt stated that preservation of the Tilcon property would help to protect the reservoir, Mumford Cove, and Long Island Sound.

Eric Thompson, 76 Pearl Street, agrees with Ms. VanZandt. He stated that he would like the property to become open space.

Molly McKay, 8 Riverbend Drive, Mystic/Stonington, a Connecticut Sierra Club member, noted that she has walked the Tilcon property and believes conservation efforts should be made to preserve this unique wildlife habitat. Ms. McKay stated that Connecticut has a goal to designate 21% of its land as open space by 2023.

James Anderson, 143 Pequot Avenue, a member of GOSA's Board of Directors, is a geologist. He remarked that the Tilcon property has virtually no soil on the ridges where the only thing that will grow is pitch pine, low-brush blueberry bushes, and scrub oaks. He believes the property would

be perfect for trails and should be preserved.

Claiborne VanZandt, 3 Front Street, supports GOSA's request to the Town to endorse a grant application to purchase the Tilcon property. He stated that the only kind of development to make a positive difference on taxes would be industrial or commercial due to educational costs for a residential area.

Eugenia Villagra, 76 Riverview Avenue, Noank, urged the Council to reconsider its vote and support GOSA's grant application. The Tilcon property is a valuable pine ridge site and Ms. Villagra feels that protecting the land makes sense.

John Sutherland, 32 Neptune Drive, believes that the Economic Development focus in regard to the Tilcon property is unrealistic due to topography of the land, the lack of water and sewer facilities, and poor traffic access. He stated that other areas in town are under-utilized should be looked at for economic development. Mr. Sutherland remarked that the quality of life issue should be considered.

Zell Steever, 81 Main Street, Noank, described the area that GOSA is considering for purchase. He noted that there are wetlands, steep slopes, and a watershed for drinking water. With its limited development possibilities, Mr. Steever believes that the highest use for this property would be open space.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

In answer to Councilors' questions, Ms. Smith stated that GOSA owns three other properties. These properties were obtained through matching grants where GOSA had to raise its share before the State funds were released to purchase the properties. According to its by-laws, if GOSA were to dissolve, the properties would be transferred to another conservation organization and continue to be open space. The purchase price for the Tilcon property has not been negotiated yet.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Minutes

2014-0091 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of March 4, 2014 are hereby accepted and approved.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Administrative Items

2014-0078 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Robert E. Fitch Class of 1953 - \$50.00 - Spicer Trust Fund
Groton Public Library Circle of Friends - \$1,000 - Library Miscellaneous
Kathryn Taylor - \$100.00 - Library Miscellaneous
Charles Rogers - \$35.00 - Social Services Discretionary
Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2013-0286 Town Council Goals

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

- 2013-0291 Adoption of Rules for Twenty-Ninth Town Council**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0024 Connecticut Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program Funding - GOSA Request for Application Endorsement**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0059 Policy on Assignment of Playing Fields**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0065 Police Chief Appointment**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0069 Complete Review of Office of Planning and Development Services with Hiring Freeze until Review Complete**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0071 Historic Documents Preservation Grant (2015)**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0076 Groton Rotary Grant - Groton Sailing Program**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0080 North Stonington Road Bridge - Update**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0081 Application for State Financial Assistance - Fusconi Property**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0083 Senior Center/William Seely School Room Rental Policy**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0084 Chelsea Groton Bank Foundation Grant - Trail Brochure**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0085 Annual RTM Budget Meeting**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0087 Appointment of Frederick Allen to Harbor Management Commission**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0088 Appointment of Stephenie Guess to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
- 2014-0090 Heritage Park Proposal - Request for Letter of Endorsement**
This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.
The motion carried unanimously

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

Councilors received communications regarding the Mystic & Noank Library budget; the Board of Education budget; facilities for robotics; Mystic Streetscape Phase II; responsibilities regarding school design, and the Northeast Academy budget.

Councilor de la Cruz attended a meeting with Acme Wire to discuss community gardening with local businesses.

Councilor Watson, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, and Councilor Flax attended the Board of Education/Town Council/RTM/City Council Liaison Committee meeting. Councilor Watson noted that the next meeting will be held April 2, 2014.

Councilor Frink and Councilor Moravsik attended an Economic Development Commission meeting.

Councilor Frink and Councilor Moravsik attended a public information session regarding Streetscape Phase II.

Mayor Schmidt and Councilor Frink attended the Fitch Senior High School Robotics Competition.

Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Watson, Councilor Frink, Councilor Cerf, and Mayor Schmidt attended a Noank School Community Garden meeting. Councilor Frink also met with Mr. Palm to discuss the plans for the public garden.

Councilor Flax and Councilor Frink toured the Tilcon property.

Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Moravsik, and Councilor Flax attended a Mystic merchants' meeting.

Councilor Moravsik announced that CCM will hold an Ethics, Accountability, and Conflict of Interest seminar on March 19, 2014.

Councilor Watson met with the Town Manager to discuss the police chief position.

Councilor Cerf stated that the public may notice that she has her I-phone with her at meetings. She noted that most Town documents are made available in .pdf format and she can access them on her phone.

Mayor Schmidt participated in the Read-Across-America program at the Catherine Kolnaski School. The Mayor attended a DEEP presentation on tourism and toured the downtown Mystic area.

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

Office Assistant Lori Watrous announced that the next regular RTM meeting will be held on April 9, 2014. She stated that committee meetings are being scheduled to discuss the budget and RTM members should come to the Town Clerk's Office at their earliest convenience to pick up their budget materials.

c. Clerk of the Council

Ms. Watrous announced that the Town Council Public Hearing on the FYE 2015 Proposed Budget will be held March 27, 2014, at the Senior Center.

d. Town Manager

The Town Manager noted that if Councilors have any questions about the budget book or need more detail to let him know. The Committee of the Whole will have special meetings on March 24, 2014, to tour the former Noank School and the LBI Inc. facility. The Town Manager announced that bond rating interviews will be held March 24-25, 2014. He should have the results of the interviews within two weeks.

e. Town Attorney

No report.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**a. Personnel/Appointments/Rules**

Councilor Flax read the minutes of March 4, 2014, which are on file at the Town Clerk's office.

b. Committee of the Whole

The resolutions on tonight's agenda are a result of the Committee of the Whole meeting. Mayor Schmidt noted that the Committee of the Whole also discussed the City Highway Budget.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Cerf remarked that she would like her referral regarding a review of the Office of Planning and Development Services to be placed on a future agenda of the Committee of the Whole. She believes that there was not adequate time for discussion due to the lateness of the hour when the referral was considered.

Councilor Flax noted that the Council needs to look at both sides of an issue before it takes any action.

Councilor de la Cruz stated that Councilors should do their due diligence during the week to make meetings smoother and quicker. He believes that cell phones should be left at home.

X. NEW BUSINESS**2013-0286****Town Council Goals****RESOLUTION ADOPTING TWENTY-NINTH GROTON TOWN COUNCIL GOALS**

RESOLVED, that the 29th Groton Town Council adopts the following goals for 2013-2014:

Economic Development

- Evaluate and restructure goals and direction of the current Economic Development Commission to create a highly efficient, functioning Economic Development Commission.
- Increase revenue (grow the grand list).
- Implement quarterly meetings with the Economic Development Commission.

Charter Revision

- Establish a Charter Revision Commission with a focus on Chapters 5 and 9 to create a more efficient Town government.

Communication

- Create Town-wide Facebook page that all Town departments contribute to.
- Increase Councilor presence in the community.
- Evaluate efficiencies of Town-wide technology and analyze merging our systems to achieve savings in purchasing and maintenance with the possibility of outsourcing.

Co-location of Departments

Develop a viable strategic plan to build a Town of Groton Core Community Complex utilizing the current Town Hall and Fitch Middle School, to be bonded by a referendum.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Frink, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2013-0291**Adoption of Rules for Twenty-Ninth Town Council****RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH TOWN COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, at the first convening of the Twenty-Ninth Town Council on December 3, 2013, Mayor Schmidt appointed a Temporary Rules Committee, and

WHEREAS, members of the Temporary Rules Committee have recommended changes to the Council's rules, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council adopts the Rules of Procedure of the Twenty-Ninth Town Council (attached), said Rules to be effective immediately.

A motion was made by Councilor Cerf, seconded by Councilor Frink, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor Frink noted that the Rules Committee will discuss electronic participation at a future date.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0024

**Connecticut Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program Funding - GOSA
Request for Application Endorsement**

**RESOLUTION REGARDING GROTON OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION'S APPLICATION
UNDER THE OPEN SPACE AND WATERSHED LAND ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Groton Open Space Association (GOSA) has requested the Groton Town Council's endorsement of an application for grant funds to purchase a parcel of land located off Route 184 currently owned by Tilcon, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Town Council Committee of the Whole at its meeting on December 23, 2013 voted not to endorse GOSA's application, and

WHEREAS, GOSA asked for endorsement of a revised application that was reviewed by the Committee of the Whole on March 11, 2014, and

WHEREAS, Town Councilors expressed concern with removing the parcel from the tax rolls and the need to use State public funds for the preservation of the property, which has been characterized as "undevelopable", now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council chooses to not endorse GOSA's application for grant funds to purchase the Tilcon, Inc. property and notes that the Council will discuss the parcel's development potential with a consultant at a later date.

A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor de la Cruz, that this matter be Adopted.

*MOTION TO AMEND the words ~~public funds~~ to read *State public funds* in the last WHEREAS paragraph was made by Councilor Cerf, seconded by Councilor Frink.*

Councilor Cerf stated that the change is for clarification purposes as the resolution is referring to the use of State funds not local funds.

VOTE on Motion to Amend carried unanimously.

Councilor Cerf noted that 95% of pitch pine forests in Connecticut are no longer in existence and there is concern regarding extinction.

Many Councilors have had the opportunity to tour the property but most believe that an appraiser should look at the property to give an opinion on its development potential.

Councilor Moravsik noted that certain types of development may be possible such as wind turbines, solar cells, and cell towers.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 6 - Mayor Schmidt, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Cerf and Councilor Flax

2014-0071 Historic Documents Preservation Grant (2015)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A CONTRACT FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton will benefit by the continuance of the Historic Document Preservation Program which will be enabled and enhanced by grant funding, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Mark R. Oefinger, Town Manager of the Town of Groton, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0076 Groton Rotary Grant - Groton Sailing Program

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SEEK GRANT FUNDING FROM THE GROTON ROTARY CLUB TO BENEFIT SUMMER ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH GROTON HUMAN SERVICES' 2014 GROTON SAILING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, at-risk Groton youth will benefit from an on-going, instructional sailing program which includes summer activities that foster sailing skills, communication and teamwork and,

WHEREAS, Groton Human Services, via its Groton Sailing Program, has the capacity and community connections to offer a summer sailing program geared toward the needs of at-risk Groton youth and,

WHEREAS, the Groton Rotary Club has grant funds available for community programs geared toward youth and families, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager or his designee to seek grant funding in the amount of \$2,000 from the Groton Rotary Club, which will be utilized by Groton Human Services to benefit summer activities associated with the department's 2014 Groton Sailing Program.

A motion was made by Councilor Moravsik, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

MOTION TO AMEND Groton Human Services, via its Groton Sailing Program to read Groton Human Services, via its Groton Sailing Program made available by Sea-Legs, Inc. in the second WHEREAS paragraph was made by Councilor Cerf, seconded by Councilor Frink.

Councilor Cerf noted that it would be nice to give Sea-Legs, Inc. credit so that it can be more effective in its fund-raising efforts.

Councilor Peruzzotti expressed her gratitude for all that Sea-Legs, Inc. does, but stated that she is concerned that the Town may not get the grant money if the wording is changed.

The Town Manager also noted that the entire \$2,000 may not be going to Sea-Legs, Inc., some of the money may be used to pay other costs of the program.

VOTE on Motion to Amend failed 1 In Favor, 7 Opposed (In Favor: Councilor Cerf)

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0080 North Stonington Road Bridge - Update**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATION AND SETTLEMENT REGARDING NORTH STONINGTON ROAD BRIDGE**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2014, the Town Council Committee of the Whole, during its regular meeting, met in executive session with the Town Manager, Director of the Department of Public Works and Town Attorney to discuss strategy and negotiations, including but not limited to possible settlement discussions, related to pending litigation and/or pending claims concerning the North Stonington Road Bridge, James P. Purcell Associates, Inc. (now known as Alfred Benesch and Company) ("Benesch") and issues with consulting engineering services performed in relation to said bridge, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that:

1. The Town Attorney, Director of the Town's Department of Public Works and Town Manager are hereby authorized to negotiate a settlement agreement between the Town of Groton and Benesch pertaining to the North Stonington Road Bridge, based on parameters discussed during said Executive Session; and
2. If such a settlement is negotiated, the Town Manager is hereby authorized to accept and execute the settlement agreement on behalf of the Town of Groton once approved by the Town Attorney, and to perform all acts ancillary thereto.

A motion was made by Councilor Frink, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0081 Application for State Financial Assistance - Fusconi Property**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE FUSCONI PROPERTY REMEDIATION AND REUSE PROJECT (ALSO REFERRED TO AS 5 CRYSTAL LAKE ROAD, GROTON PROPERTY)**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 32-231 (Manufacturing Assistance Act - Revolving Fund), the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Groton make an application to the State for \$84,700 (including a 10% local match of \$7,700) in order to complete site remediation and to execute an Assistance Agreement; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Town of Groton Town Council

That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 32-231 (Manufacturing Assistance Act - Revolving Fund);

That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Groton in an amount not to exceed \$84,700 is hereby approved and that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Groton;

That it adopts or has adopted as its policy to support the following nondiscrimination agreements and warranties provided in subsection (a)(1) of Connecticut General Statutes sections 4a-60a,

respectively, as amended by Public Acts 07-142 and 07-245, and for which purposes the “contractor” is the Town of Groton and “contract” is said Assistance Agreement:

The contractor agrees and warrant that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or the state of Connecticut. The contractor further agrees to take affirmative action to insure that applicants with job-related qualifications are employed and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved.

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sexual orientation, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or the state of Connecticut, and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their sexual orientation.

A motion was made by Councilor de la Cruz, seconded by Councilor Frink, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0083

Senior Center/William Seely School Room Rental Policy

RESOLUTION APPROVING PARKS AND RECREATION BUILDING USE POLICY

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has developed a draft policy for room rentals at the Senior Center and William Seely School based on best practices from other agencies, and

WHEREAS, room rentals will provide a valuable service to the community and become an additional revenue stream for the Parks and Recreation special revenue fund, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes that the policy can be modified in the future if experience warrants it, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Parks and Recreation Building Use Policy (attached), effective immediately.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0084

Chelsea Groton Bank Foundation Grant - Trail Brochure

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHELSEA GROTON FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Chelsea Groton Foundation, Inc. offers grants to scientific, educational and charitable organizations located within the bank’s market area, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department is seeking permission to apply for a \$1,500 grant to fund the printing of trail brochures that will highlight trails throughout Groton, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger or his designee is authorized to apply for a \$1,500 grant from the Chelsea Groton Foundation for the printing of trail brochures.

A motion was made by Councilor Cerf, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0085 Annual RTM Budget Meeting

RESOLUTION SETTING RTM BUDGET MEETING DATE ON THE FYE 2015 ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET

WHEREAS, Section 9.3.1 of the Groton Town Charter requires that the Town Council determine the date for the annual budget meeting of the Representative Town Meeting, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Annual Budget Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday April 30, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Groton Senior Center, Newtown Road, Groton, Connecticut.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0090 Heritage Park Proposal - Request for Letter of Endorsement

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE THAMES RIVER HERITAGE PARK PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Yale Urban Design Workshop is developing the Thames River Heritage Park project under the auspices of the Avery-Copp House, and

WHEREAS, the updated park concept presents an opportunity to capitalize on this investment, boost tourism, and stimulate economic development, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council endorses the Thames River Heritage Park concept and directs staff to prepare a letter of support for Mayor Schmidt's signature to be sent to the president of the Avery-Copp House.

A motion was made by Councilor Moravsik, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

The appointments on tonight's agenda were moved by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti and voted on at the same time. All appointments passed unanimously.

2014-0087 Appointment of Frederick Allen to Harbor Management Commission

RESOLUTION APPOINTING FREDERICK ALLEN AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Frederick L. Allen, 898 Shennecossett Road, is hereby appointed as an alternate member to the Harbor Management Commission for a term ending 09/01/16.

A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2014-0088 Appointment of Stephenie Guess to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEPHENIE GUESS TO THE LEDGE LIGHT HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, that Stephenie Guess, 31 Concord Court, is hereby appointed to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors for a term ending 11/10/16.

A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS**Suspension of the Rules**

A motion to suspend the rules to consider the Appointment of Alma Burns to the Housing Authority was made by Councilor Moravsik, seconded by Councilor Watson.

VOTE on Motion to Suspend the Rules carried 7 In Favor, 1 Opposed (Opposed: Councilor Peruzzotti)

2014-0092

Appointment of Alma Burns to the Housing Authority

APPOINTMENT OF ALMA BURNS TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

RESOLVED, that Alma Margaret Burns, 65 Village Lane #2, is hereby appointed as a tenant member to the Housing Authority for a term ending 07/31/14.

A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor Peruzzotti does not support this resolution because it did not follow the Town Council Appointment Policy. She understands that there are extenuating circumstances, but believes that all appointments should go to the Town Committees before being forwarded to the Personnel and Appointments Committee. Councilor Peruzzotti is concerned about setting a precedent.

Councilor Flax stated that Ms. Burns is applying as a tenant member of the Housing Authority. The Town is applying for a Community Development Block Grant and there is concern that it may jeopardize the approval of the grant if there is not a tenant commissioner on the Housing Authority, since the State puts a lot of emphasis on tenant involvement. Councilor Flax also noted that the Council reserves the right to appoint any applicant regardless of the recommendation from the political Town committees.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 7 - Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Cerf, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Flax, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik and Councilor Watson
Opposed: 1 - Councilor Peruzzotti

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Watson and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Lori Watrous, Office Assistant